

SERIAL NO.: 09/272,562

PATENT APPLICATION

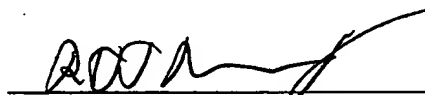
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.1.111

Amendment, claim 28 is added to claim subject matter previously disclosed but unclaimed. It is respectfully submitted that newly added claim 28 does not introduce new matter.

It is respectfully submitted that the Preliminary Amendment places the above-identified application in even better condition for initial examination. In light of the amendments and remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may best be resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Raymond H. J. Powell, Jr.  
Reg. No. 34,231

**WESTERLUND · POWELL, P.C.**  
100 Daingerfield Rd., Suite 100  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2886  
Phone: (703) 706-5862  
Fax : (703) 706-5860

Date: July 2, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: MDHS-378A

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**